

# WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

**April 12, 2010**

**7:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m.**

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Ed Brandt, public-at-large	✓		Rick Brush, DPS
Jill Coutts, scientific/academic		✓	Danila Sheveiko, Kensington Heights Citizens' Association
Rick Ducey, business		✓	Mark Symborski, MNCPPC
Kay Fulcomer, public-at-large	✓		
Erica Goldman, scientific/academic	✓		
Carol Henry, scientific/academic	✓		
Alan Kravitz, public-at-large	✓		
Lonnie Luther, agricultural		✓	
Daphne Pee, public-at-large		✓	
Dusty Rood, Vice-Chair, business		✓	
Fred Samadani, agricultural	✓		
Larry Silverman, Chair, environmental	✓		
Mike Smith, environmental	✓		
Tanya Spano, environmental	✓		
Eileen Straughan, business		✓	
Martin Chandler, WSSC	✓		
Meo Curtis, DEP	✓		
Doug Redmond, MNCPPC	✓		
Agenda Item	Major Points		
<b>1. Welcome and Approval of draft Agenda for April and Meeting Summary from March</b> <i>Larry Silverman, Chair</i>	Chair Silverman welcomed all and introduced Danila Sheveiko of the Kensington Heights Citizens' Association who would be a presenter later on the agenda. Chair Silverman asked if there were any comments on the draft March meeting summary. Mike Smith noted that he had been referring specifically to the Watershed Restoration implementation Strategy for his recommendations in the March meeting summary. Other corrections included correcting typos and numbering errors. The meeting summary was then approved as amended and corrected.		
<b>2. Meeting approach and meeting with Executive</b> <i>Larry Silverman, Chair</i>	The Chair commented that the WQAG focus should include considering how changes in regulation and approach are manifested in the real world. Could the WQAG find any examples from new and redevelopment in the County?  He then summarized his meeting with the Executive. The focus was on funding needs and the limitations of the Water Quality Protection Charge as detailed in the Annual Report for 2009. He had noted the WQPC is considered a tax rather than a fee--a fee would allow broader coverage. He had also mentioned the need for funding for WSSC rate increases and inquired if it were a perception or real that the limitations in increases were due to Prince George's County. He had advocated for more outreach to enlist the aid of the public for stormwater management. He had asked about comparing the budget and effort existing for recycling and that program's outreach success.		
<b>3. Potomac Watershed Clean up.</b> <i>Kay Fulcomer</i>	Kay Fulcomer then provided an update on the Potomac Watershed Clean Up in Montgomery County. There were 22 tons removed, summarized in Attachment A. The WQAG then discussed why this clean up effort had to be repeated very year. There was mention of the need for more education for youth (next generation) and also cross-cultural issues.		
<b>4. Watershed assessments and retrofit plans.</b> Chair Silverman.	Chair Silverman then led a discussion on linking land use and zoning to stormwater management capacity. Ms. Curtis noted that the State was mandating that local jurisdictions do this through the Water Resources Element. Mark Symborski of Planning commented that these WREs were not site specific. The County has very little 'greenfield' development potential so the focus for improvements from stormwater must be on redevelopment. The County cannot predict or direct what will be done on specific redevelopment sites--these are more a reaction once a property owner or developer believes there is a market for a specific type of development proposal. Rick Brush of DPS noted that the County has requirements for redevelopment that are very stringent compared to other counties'. During review for stormwater, the developer		

## WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

	<p>must start with what can be done on the site and what can be provided to meet the regulatory criteria for runoff quality and quantity management. The quantity management is to protect downstream stream channels from eroding.</p> <p>Chair Silverman brought up the example of the Wheaton Mall redevelopment and the proposed COSTCO and fueling stations. Mr. Brush noted that the Wheaton redevelopment must provide quantity and quality management. The receiving stream of Silver Creek has had a long history of flooding issues related to an undersized culvert and some homes built in the floodplain. The County had considered adding a pond upstream of this culvert but there was no site available without condemnation and even with condemnation would create a high-hazard dam with requirements for flood event warning and evacuation. In the Silver Creek watershed, new development requires 100-year control and the COSTCO site will be required to provide 100-year storage because of the existing flooding problems downstream.</p> <p>Chair Silverman posed the question: What more should be done on the site? He had asked Danila Sheveiko from the Kensington Heights Citizens' Association (KHCA) to discuss that group's concerns on the proposed COSTCO redevelopment at Wheaton Mall.</p>
<p><b>4. COSTCO proposed development at Wheaton Mall..</b> Danila Sheveiko, Kensington Heights Citizens' Association</p>	<p>Mr. Sheveiko thanked the WQAG for the opportunity to present on this proposed redevelopment. His powerpoint presentation is Attachment B to this summary. He noted that the Wheaton Mall is a major impervious source at the ridge between two watersheds- Sligo Creek and Rock Creek. The nearby residents have voiced a number of concerns, particularly about the proposed large fueling station. There were traffic volume concerns but also environmental safety concerns. There was recognition that the State had specific safety and environmental regulations concerning gas stations but questions remained about the appropriateness of such a large gas station at this site. Other concerns raised had to do with the apparent piece-meal nature of redevelopment at the Mall and concerns that without a comprehensive plan, existing green spaces on adjacent parcels would be eliminated. Mr. Sheveiko advocated for a comprehensive plan on the site that could maintain environmental benefits while providing for economic development. The KHCA had discussed issues with COSTCO developer particularly their opposition to the gas station specifically. The KHCA were now pressuring the Westfield Shoppingtown (Mall) because the property owner was poised to receive significant County tax breaks as incentives to redevelop.</p>
<p><b>6. Imperviousness and Watershed Health.</b> Mark Symborski, MNCPPC Planning</p>	<p>Mr. Symborski continued the discussion about imperviousness with recent activities before the Planning Board. The Planning Department reiterated its Fall 2008 position that engineered surfaces like permeable pavement and green roofs could not be counted as pervious surfaces. The Md DNR in fact had recently reversed the state's Imperviousness Credit Policy for use in Critical Areas so that these types of surfaces would not be credited. This was due to concerns that the policy was resulting in additional loss of natural pervious areas when the engineered surfaces were credited as pervious areas.</p>
<p><b>7. Future issues.</b> Larry Silverman.</p>	<p>Chair Silverman then asked the WQAG to consider what future presentations and discussion should focus on. The WQAG's charge was to provide recommendations on programs and policies, and had no apparent role in project-specific recommendations. The WQAG should then consider if existing programs, policies, plans, are providing sufficient water quality protection. Could this be extended to comments on Sector Plans such as Wheaton, White Flint, and Kensington? What about recommendations on how to promote long-term gains from more sustainable approaches despite greater up-front costs?</p>
<p><b>7. Items for Next Meeting.</b> Vice-Chair Rood</p>	<p>Vice-Chair Rood suggested that members consider these issues for discussion at the next WQAG meeting. He noted that Chair Silverman's term on the WQAG was ending and therefore a new Chair needed to be selected. He asked members to consider nominations for voting at the next meeting. He also asked members to consider what the WQAG should undertake in the coming months and how to effectively address those issues.</p>
<p><b>8. Adjourn</b></p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at about 9:15 p.m. Next meeting will be on Monday May 10.</p>

# WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

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## ATTACHMENT A.

### Watershed Cleanup in Montgomery County Kay Fulcomer

On April 10, 2010, volunteers of all ages participated in the 22nd annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup. Leadership was provided by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, with the support of many dedicated local watershed groups and corporate sponsors. Early results show an impressive effort, and on-going cleanups this month will probably double these numbers. These hard-working, dedicated volunteers deserve the recognition and appreciation of all of us in Montgomery County.

Recognition is also due to Montgomery County Parks Department for volunteer support and for hauling away over 22 tons of trash and junk.

### Montgomery County Results as of April 12, 2010

Sites reporting: 39  
Volunteers: 1199  
Trash bags: 1174  
Tires: 175  
Unbagged trash in pounds (w/o tires): 1086  
Recyclables : 452  
Recycled: 113  
Cigarette Butts: 1282  
Plastic Bags: 5365  
Total pounds trash: 44411  
Total tons trash: 22.055

# WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

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## **Attachment B.**

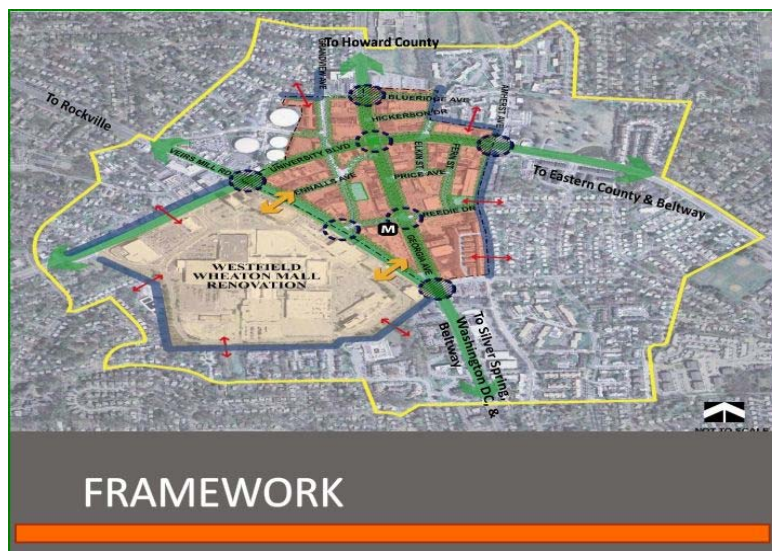
Presentation by Daniela Sheveiko

# Costco/Westfield Development Plan

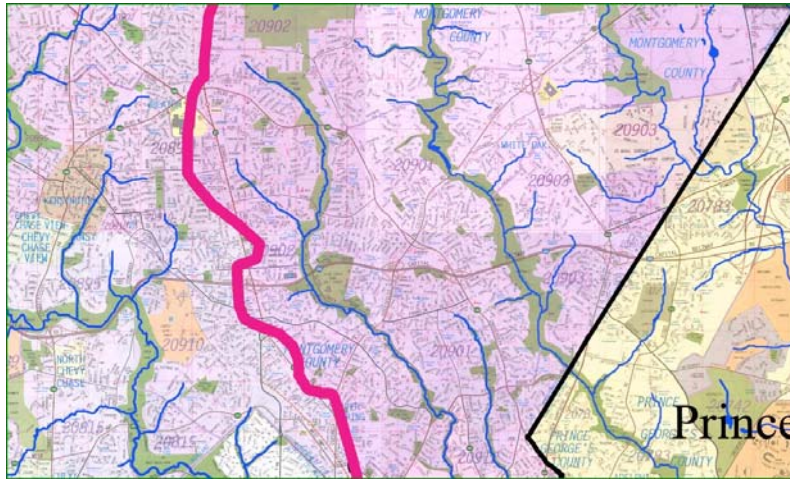
## KHCA Working Group

March 16/2010

# Wheaton Urban District



## Rock & Sligo Creek Headwaters



## Westfield





148,000 sq ft  
81,300 sq ft  
6,534 spaces  
8,380 total spaces

367 SP  
EXISTING PARKING  
TO REMAIN

127 SP

NEW MALL ENTRY  
COSTCO ENTRY  
NEW MALL COMMON AREA

395 SP

NEW GRADED AND FOREDECK STATION  
W/ARCH OF PARKING AND STRIPING  
IN THIS AREA

RE-GRADING PARKING TO  
CONVERT EXISTING DRIVEWAYS TO  
STANDARD 8'X16' STALLS  
IN THIS AREA

NEW RETAINING WALL

**Costco**  
WHOLESALE  
CENTERS  
LAKE MARY, FL  
100,000 sq ft  
CONCRETE METAL DECK DESIGNED  
FOR 350 PSF LIVE LOAD

CORTED  
LOADING  
DOCK

EXISTING RING ROAD

1

N

PROPOSED COMBOD (2ND LEVEL)  
FF = 442.20  
PROPOSED METAL (1ST LEVEL)  
FF = 435.39

CONNECT SURFACE PARKING  
UNDER BUILDING TO SANITARY  
SEWER PER PLUMBING PLANS.  
SURFACE PARKING UNDER  
BUILDING DRAIN TO WISC  
SANITARY SEWER.

FIRST LEVEL METAL

PROPOSED LABORATORY  
PARKING

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 4

10.20 ACRES  
8.06 ACRES  
10.12 ACRES

BOHLER ENGINEERING

CONCEPT PLAN

WESTFIELD DEVELOPMENT  
CORP.

BOHLER ENGINEERING

D.M. DUKE

STORMWATER  
CONCEPT PLAN

3

## Wheaton Costco Gas Station



## Wheaton 1,000' Radius

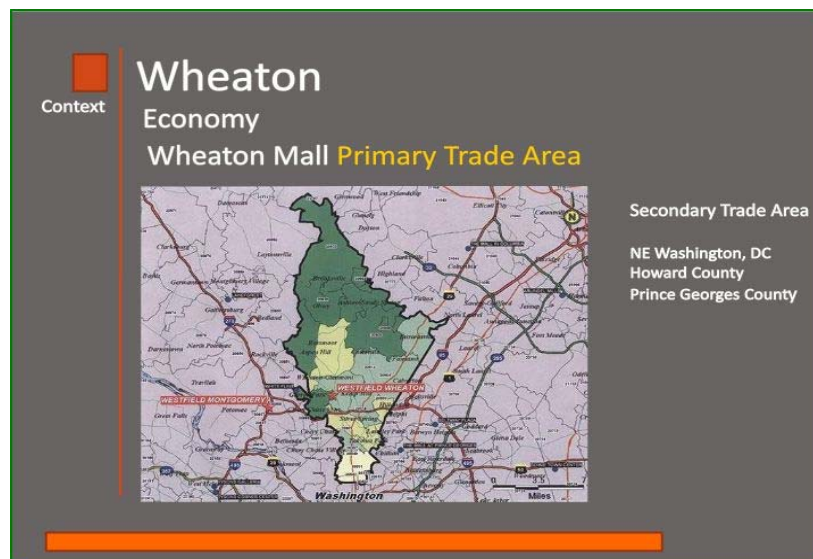




## Beltsville Costco



## Trade Area



## Sensitive Organizations

### Kenmont Swim & Tennis Club

Call: 301-933-0047  
A Community Atmosphere and Friendly Membership.  
Conveniently located adjacent to Westfield Shoppingtown in Kensington, MD



### Stephen Knolls School

10731 St. Margaret's Way, Kensington, MD 20895  
Phone: 301-929-2151 | Fax: 301-929-2245



### Kensington Nursery School

A Parent Cooperative Preschool Since 1940



## Drainage Pattern



## Green Initiatives



### Wheaton Environment

Environmental improvement will be made **incrementally through redevelopment**



water quality

air quality

carbon storage

energy use reduction

urban heat island

## Green Solutions

Wheaton





# Benefits



# Soft Benefits

## CURB APPEAL

NEW RESEARCH EXPLORES WAYS TO VALUE GREEN ROOFS BY ESTIMATING THEIR IMPACT ON PROPERTY VALUES

By Ronny & Barbara Kowalski

This article is drawn from a report prepared by the authors for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), entitled *The Monetary Value of the Soft Benefits of Green Roofs*. The report, created with support from Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, developed methods for estimating these benefits that are often ignored when evaluating the impact of green roofs because of difficulties in measuring them. This article focuses on one of the seven benefits covered in the report, increased property values.

**GREEN ROOF VALUE**

Green roofs have been shown to increase property values by a range of 0.2% to 0.5% in the case of green roofs with a view of the city skyline, and 0.1% to 0.2% in the case of green roofs with a view of the surrounding landscape. This increase in value is due to the aesthetic appeal of the green roof, which is a soft benefit. The value of a green roof can be estimated using the following formula:

$$b = 0.2 \cdot V$$

WHERE:  
 $b$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)  
 $V$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)

**PRODUCTIVE ROOFTOP GARDEN**

Having a productive rooftop garden can increase the value of a property by a range of 0.1% to 0.2% in the case of green roofs with a view of the city skyline, and 0.05% to 0.1% in the case of green roofs with a view of the surrounding landscape. This increase in value is due to the aesthetic appeal of the green roof, which is a soft benefit. The value of a green roof can be estimated using the following formula:

$$b = 0.1 \cdot V$$

WHERE:  
 $b$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)  
 $V$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)

**RECREATIONAL ROOFTOP GARDEN**

Having a recreational rooftop garden can increase the value of a property by a range of 0.1% to 0.2% in the case of green roofs with a view of the city skyline, and 0.05% to 0.1% in the case of green roofs with a view of the surrounding landscape. This increase in value is due to the aesthetic appeal of the green roof, which is a soft benefit. The value of a green roof can be estimated using the following formula:

$$b = 0.07 \cdot V$$

WHERE:  
 $b$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)  
 $V$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)

### VIEW ONTO A GREEN ROOF

Having a view of a green roof can increase the value of a property by a range of 0.1% to 0.2% in the case of green roofs with a view of the city skyline, and 0.05% to 0.1% in the case of green roofs with a view of the surrounding landscape. This increase in value is due to the aesthetic appeal of the green roof, which is a soft benefit. The value of a green roof can be estimated using the following formula:

$$b = 0.09 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot h \cdot d \cdot w$$

WHERE:  
 $b$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)  
 $h$  = HEIGHT OF THE GREEN ROOF (M)  
 $d$  = DISTANCE FROM GREEN ROOF TO PROPERTY (\$/M)  
 $w$  = WIDTH OF THE GREEN ROOF (M)

### AREA-WIDE BENEFIT

Having a view of a green roof can increase the value of a property by a range of 0.1% to 0.2% in the case of green roofs with a view of the city skyline, and 0.05% to 0.1% in the case of green roofs with a view of the surrounding landscape. This increase in value is due to the aesthetic appeal of the green roof, which is a soft benefit. The value of a green roof can be estimated using the following formula:

$$b = 0.045 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot h \cdot d \cdot w$$

WHERE:  
 $b$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)  
 $h$  = HEIGHT OF THE GREEN ROOF (M)  
 $d$  = DISTANCE FROM GREEN ROOF TO PROPERTY (\$/M)  
 $w$  = WIDTH OF THE GREEN ROOF (M)

### AREA-WIDE BENEFIT

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$$b = 0.09 \cdot V$$

WHERE:  
 $b$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)  
 $V$  = VALUE OF THE GREEN ROOF SOFT BENEFIT (\$)

## Hard Benefits

1. By and large, ESD measures are both eminently viable and comparatively cost-effective options to use as part of urban redevelopment projects including those at high intensities/densities in highly urban settings; and
2. Significant water volumes, consistent with Maryland's WQv and CPv levels of management, are readily achievable, and may be managed efficiently with ESD practices. Such practices are usually less costly – or, at most, of largely equal cost – when compared with conventional stormwater management practices.

## Economic Benefits

SUMMARY TABLE - COMPARISON BETWEEN ESD AND CONVENTIONAL STORMWATER		
	Design for Water Quality Volume	Design for Channel Protection Volume
<b>LOT 31</b>		
ESD	\$73,567	\$121,933
Conventional	\$132,684	\$205,844
DIFFERENCE	-\$59,117	-\$83,911
<b>CALVERTON</b>		
ESD	\$104,164	\$416,097
Conventional	\$207,867	\$235,960
DIFFERENCE	-\$103,704	<b>\$180,136</b>
<b>BALTIMORE</b>		
ESD	\$263,010	\$658,381
Conventional	\$409,307	\$657,817
DIFFERENCE	-\$146,297	-\$564



## Proven Performance



## KHCA Working Group



# WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

**June 14, 2010**

**7:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m.**

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Ed Brandt, public-at-large	✓		Trudi Bick, WQAG nominee
Jill Coutts, scientific/academic		✓	Danila Sheveiko, WQAG nominee
Rick Ducey, business		✓	Mark Symborski, MNCPPC
Kay Fulcomer, public-at-large	✓		
Erica Goldman, scientific/academic	✓		
Carol Henry, scientific/academic	✓		
Alan Kravitz, public-at-large	✓		
Lonnie Luther, agricultural	✓		
Daphne Pee, public-at-large	✓		
Dusty Rood, Vice-Chair, business	✓		
Fred Samadani, agricultural	✓		
Larry Silverman, Chair, environmental	✓		
Mike Smith, environmental	✓		
Tanya Spano, environmental		✓	
Eileen Straughan, business		✓	
Martin Chandler, WSSC	✓		
Meo Curtis, DEP	✓		
Doug Redmond, MNCPPC	✓		
Agenda Item	Major Points		
<b>1. Welcome and Approval of draft Agenda for June and Meeting Summary from April (5 minutes)</b> <i>Larry Silverman, Chair</i>	Chair Larry Silverman welcomed members and guests. He asked for approval for the draft agenda (attached) and meeting summary from April. There had been no meeting of the WQAG in May. <i>The agenda was approved without changes, the meeting summary was approved with corrections of typographical errors.</i>		
<b>2. Introductions of members and new candidates. (10 minutes)</b> <i>Chair Silverman</i>	Chair Silverman noted that WQAG nominees were present and asked for a round of introductions around the table. Nominees Trudi Bick and Danila Sheveiko introduced themselves and provided some background on their experience and interest in joining the WQAG. Mark Symborski had been nominated to replace Doug Redmond from MNCPPC since Doug had served two full terms on the WQAG.		
<b>3. Acknowledgements and thanks to departing members (15 minutes)</b> <i>Chair Silverman</i>	Chair Silverman then presented Kay Fulcomer and Doug Redmond with certificates of appreciation from the County Executive. He acknowledged Kay's contributions especially for public outreach and Doug's longer term experience with the WQAG, beginning years before he was officially appointed as the MNCPPC representative. Vice-Chair Dusty Rood then presented Chair Silverman with an Executive Certificate of Appreciation for his leadership as both Vice-Chair and Chair of the WQAG. Daphne Pee then presented Chair Silverman with a succulent garden from the WQAG members as a token of their appreciation for his leadership.		
<b>4. May 19 Budget Letter--Ratification (5 minutes)</b> <i>Chair Silverman</i>	<i>Chair Silverman then asked for and received approval of the letter of support for the DEP budget (attachment B) that he had drafted and forwarded on behalf of the WQAG. He acknowledged that this request was for after the fact support but this issue had been discussed via e-mail and that no members had indicated issues with this approach, given that the budget hearing for FY11 took place between WQAG meetings.</i>		
<b>5. Discussion of officer responsibilities (10 minutes)</b> <i>Chair Silverman and Vice-Chair Dusty Rood.</i>	Chair Silverman and Vice Chair Rood then began discussions of officer responsibilities prior to receiving nominations for the next year's officers. Chair Silverman noted that the Chair's primary responsibilities included recommending the agendas, moderating the meetings to lead to actions from the WQAG, and meeting with the Executive on an annual basis. In his opinion, the Chair needed to keep on top of emerging water quality resources issues in the County.		

# WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

<p><b>6. Nomination and election of new Chair and Vice-Chair (15 minutes) All</b></p>	<p>Chair Silverman suggested Carol Henry as a nominee for Chair. given her extensive leadership experience with committees and workgroups. Vice-Chair Rood re-iterated his willingness to continue as Vice-Chair, if desired by fellow members. Ms. Henry expressed some concerns about current time commitments elsewhere and suggested a co-chair with Ms. Pee. Ms. Pee had been significantly involved in outreach activities for the WQAG during the past year.</p> <p>Meo Curtis confirmed that the County's Boards, Committees, and Commissions were allowed to determine what officers they felt were necessary. The WQAG then moved on to discuss the existing committee structure and the need to evaluate their assigned topics, priorities, and functions. Fred Samadani suggested the establishment of an Executive Committee of a few WQAG members that would assist the officers with administration, drafting letters, and completing reviews. Co-Chair Rood recommended that the WQAG should focus on leadership options, and the discussion turned back to selecting officers.</p> <p>Co-Chair Rood brought up questions about how the co-chairs would function. Would there need to be two positions that need to be filled at the time of the next election? What would the Vice-Chair role be with two Co-Chairs? There followed a significant amount of discussion about process for the WQAG with the proposed change in leadership structure. Ms. Henry affirmed her willingness to be a co-chair which would allow her to mentor Ms. Pee to gain more leadership experience. She pointed out that the WQAG could decide at some future time to return to the previous leadership arrangement if the co-chair and vice-chair set up was found lacking. Erica Goldman indicated her interest in taking on greater leadership role to help with the transition when Co-Chair Rood must leave in 2011.</p> <p><i>Ms. Fulcomer made a motion to nominate Ms. Henry and Ms. Pee as Co-Chairs and Mr. Rood as Vice-Chair. The motion was approved and the slate of officers approved by acclamation.</i></p>
<p><b>7. Discussion of major issues for 2010-2011 (1 hours) ALL.</b></p>	<p>Vice-Chair Rood then led the discussion on purpose and existence of the WQAG. He noted that their major role is to make recommendations to the Executive and Council. In the past, most of these recommendations have been in writing. There have been opportunities for direct recommendations during the Annual Meeting with the Executive and if presenting to Council or one of the Council committees.</p> <p>Alan Kravitz asked if the WQAG had tracked whether the recommendations had been pursued. Larry Silverman felt that the WQAG had made significant recommendations on the budget during this past year. He noted the need to gain access to elected officials and to go out to the community to get input into topics before forwarding recommendations. Ed Brandt mentioned that there were a number of other groups like Friends of Rock Creek Environment and Friends of Sligo Creek that had more direct links to the community. He felt that the WQAG needed to create or assure greater relevance for its functions and recommendations. Vice-Chair Rood suggested that the WQAG could focus on issues brought up by the Executive or Council. Lonnie Luther commented that it was up to the WQAG to create interest from the Executive and Council.</p> <p>Vice-Chair Rood noted that the WQAG transmits its key recommendations via an Annual Report but perhaps there was a need to provide guidance more frequently. Perhaps the WQAG should select 11 topics (one for each monthly meeting?). Mr. Brandt suggested the possibilities of reducing phosphorus use on lawns, becoming leaders in sustainability, and increasing environmental awareness and outreach. He felt that the WQAG had expertise among its membership and could make good recommendations in these areas. Ms. Goldman suggested a goal for each meeting and forwarding a 'report' via e-mail that identified issues of interest after each meeting and the WQAG intent to follow up . Questions were raised as to how these suggestions would link with committees and also concerns about how too frequent and small communications with the Council might affect more significant recommendations.</p>

## WQAG MEETING SUMMARY

<b>7. Items for Next Meeting.</b>	At this point it was 9 p.m. The Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs agreed to continue the discussion and identify what they felt were the most important issues for making water quality differences. This Executive Workgroup would consider the items raised during this evening's discussion and come back with recommendations for next steps at the July meeting. MR. Samadani re-iterated his interest in volunteering for the Executive Workgroup for some issues.
<b>8. Adjourn</b>	The meeting was adjourned about 9:10 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday July 12, 2010 at 7 p.m. at DEP.

# Water Quality Advisory Group

*MISSION: To recommend policies, programs, and priorities that protect, maintain, and/or restore the biological, chemical and physical integrity of County streams, rivers, wetlands, groundwater, lakes, and other water resources.*

**Monday June 14, 2010**

**7:00 -9:00 p.m.**

**DEP Rm. 140 at 255 Rockville Pike**

**Rockville, Maryland 20850**

**240-777-7711**

## **DRAFT AGENDA**

Approval of Minutes and Agenda (5 minutes)

Welcome and introductions of new members and guests (10 minutes)

Acknowledgements and thanks to departing members (15 minutes)

May 19 Budget Letter—Ratification (5 minutes)

Discussion of officer responsibilities (10 minutes).....*Larry, Dusty*

Nomination and election of new Chair and Vice Chair (15 Minutes)

Discussion of major issues for 2010-2011 (1 hour)

ADJOURN





May 19, 2010

Honorable Nancy Floreen  
President  
Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President Floreen and Members of Council:

The Water Quality Advisory Group has asked me to reiterate the Group's recommendations in 2010 and 2009 that the budget for the Department of Environmental Protection be maintained. Our primary concern as a water quality group is the ability of the County to meet its obligations under the new Stormwater Permit. The permit imposes large, new, and legally binding obligations on the County. DEP is one of the critical agencies for meeting those obligations. Meeting these obligations will be extremely difficult in any case. Budget cuts at this time will lead to non-compliance and impose costs on the County far in excess of the budget under consideration.

We understand the difficult economic times the County and all of us are experiencing. However, the WQAG has spent months studying the new permit and the demands it places on County government resources. It is our duty to report to you that however dire the general budget situation is today, it will become even worse if the County fails in meeting its permit responsibilities because of budget cuts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry J. Silverman  
Chairman

#### **WATER QUALITY ADVISORY GROUP**

255 Rockville Pike, Suite 120 • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240-777-7700, FAX 240-777-7752